

December 15, 2024

Third Sunday of Advent

Liturgists: Rev. Rebecca Jordan Heys and Rev. Brad Zwiers Ministry of Music: Covenant Choir Choir Directors: Maria Schoon and Maria VandenBosch Organist: Kenneth Bos Pianist: Nancy Triezenberg Audio/Video: Arc Frisch, Steve Triezenberg

Ten o'clock

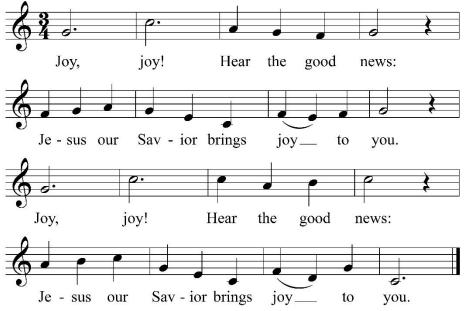
December 15, 2024

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

Prelude: "Five Carol Fantasies"	John Ness Beck
Welcome and Announcements	
Procession of Light and The Word Cello hymn: "Come, Lord Jesus"	Music: Carey Landry
Lighting the Candle of Joy	Jubilee Heys
Advent Reading and Prayer	Wesley Visker Emmy Schipper
Anthem: "Advent Carol"	Text and Music: Beth Kenrich

CHOIR: Joy, joy! Hear the good news. Jesus our Savior brings joy to you.

CONGREGATION: (Please join the choir when directed.)



CHOIR: Yes, Jesus our Savior brings hope, peace, joy, and love to you.

Advent Litany: (Based on Isaiah 60:1-2, Matthew 1:23, Micah 5:2-4, Isaiah 9:6, II Peter 1:19, John 4:25) Nate Meyer, Annaliese Hendrikse, Claire Veldkamp

<u>Chorister 1:</u> Arise, children of God, your light has come, and the glory of the Lord is upon you. Darkness may cover the earth, but on you, God's light shines.

The prophet Isaiah promised that the Lord will give us a sign. A virgin will give birth to a son, and he will be called Emmanuel.

Congregation: Emmanuel, God with us.

<u>Chorister 2:</u> The prophet, Micah, also told of Emmanuel's coming. Out of Bethlehem will come the Promised One. He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord. His greatness will bring light to the ends of the earth.

<u>Chorister 3:</u> He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace, the bright Morning Star.

He will be our Savior, our Messiah, our Emmanuel. Come Messiah! Come Emmanuel!

Congregation: Come, Emmanuel, come today!

Anthem: "Prepare a Way for the Lord" Text and Music: Michael Bedford Prepare a way for the Lord! Prepare a way for the Lord! Get ready, get ready, he's coming soon!

We light the Advent candles, we light them one by one; We light the Advent candles, for God's won Son! We light the Advent candles and then we join to say, "Make room in your hearts for Jesus who comes on Christmas Day!"

* Opening Hymn: "With Joy I Heard My Friends Exclaim"

* God's Greeting

WE CONFESS OUR SIN

Hymn of Confession, with Psalm 74: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

<u>#61:1,2,4,6</u>

#66:1,2,4,5

Prayer of Lament: "An Advent Lament"#62* Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creedfront cover of hymnal

* Song of Response: "Gloria, Gloria/Glory to God" Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

> Glory to God, glory to God, in the highest heaven! Peace be on earth, peace be on earth, alleluia, alleluia!

A Quizzical Christmas

Cast:

Holly: Hannah Triezenberg Angela: Hazel Nunn Maria: Allison Coulter Nick: Josh Meyer Joe: Abram Veldkamp

Lead Angels: Lydia Meyer, Claire Veldkamp Angels: Ellie Leinberger, Nora Nunn, Ruby Nunn Mary: Jubilee Heys Joseph: Nate Meyer

Shepherds: Olivia Coulter, Annaliese Hendrikse, Gracie Lizewski, Nico Wierenga

Wisemen: David Hendrikse, Jack Rayburn, Wesley Visker

TLC Angels

Worship Center Angel Chorus

Directors: Melanie Tolsma, Maria Schoon Asst. Director/Costumes: Erin Hubka Accompanist: Lisa Meyer

Processional Music: "So Much to Know about Christmas"

Text and Music: Gina Boe

Opening Song: "A Quizzical Christmas" Text and Music: Gina Boe It's the season of celebration; you can see it all around. Time to gather the information, there is so much to be found. So, let's find out what the season is all about. *refrain* This year, let's have a quizzical Christmas, learning all we can about the holiday. This year let's all discover the Good News, everything we need to know to celebrate the wonderful, incredible, miracle of Jesus. This year, let's all have a quizzical Christmas.
It's the season of celebration, let's get ready for the fun. When we gather the information, we can share with everyone.

So, let's find out what the season is all about.

This year, let's all have a quizzical Christmas.

The more we look for answers, the more we'll understand how all this information is part of God's masterful, merciful, beautiful plan! This year, let's have a quizzical Christmas!

Scene 1

Song: "So Much to Know about Christmas" Pum pa pa pump um.... Text and Music: Gina Boe

Something about a reindeer flying with a sleigh,

something about a jolly guy who's giving toys away.

Something about a snowman marching through the town,

something about that white stuff that keeps falling to the ground.

refrain

There's so much to know about Christmas, all the who, what, when, where, why. So much to know about Christmas. We wanna get this story right!

Something about a census, people traveling far, something about some wise men who were following a star. Something about a baby bringing peace on earth, something about some gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh.

There's really just one place to look. The story's told in one big book. Something about a promise God make long ago, something about his people who were lost and needing hope. Something about a Savior sent to rescue us, something about God's plan to show the world how much he loves.

Scene 2

Song: "One Big Book" Text and Music: Gina Boer, Lisa Qualsett One big book! One big book! Evidence and explanation, one story of the One True God. One big book! Shows the plan for his creation, Genesis to Revelation. It's one big book!

One thousand one hundred eighty-nine chapters in sixty-six books. Page after page, there is so much that happens. So, let's take a look! God's law, history, poetry, and prophecy, all about God's love for me. From the beginning, it all points to Jesus, how he'd set us free, his life and death, and his mission to save us. So, let's look and see. Gospels and more history, letters and more prophecy, all about God's love for me.

Scene 3

Song: "The Heart of Christmas" (with "O Come, Let Us Adore Him") Text and Music: Gina Boe Soloist: Hannah Triezenberg Duet: Olivia Coulter, Ellie Leinberger

You can know all of the details, all of the people and places and things. You can go through all the motions, busy with all the stuff holidays bring.

But when you see Jesus and trust and believe he's the best thing about Christmastime, that's when you start to get to the heart of Christmas.

More than the food and the presents, more than the trees, and the lights, and snow, let's celebrate with the Good News, all that God did, and the love that he showed.

'Cause when you know Jesus and trust and believe he's the best thing about Christmastime, that's when you start to get to the heart of Christmas.

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord. For he alone is worthy, for he alone is worthy, for he alone is worthy, Christ the Lord.

When you see Jesus and trust and believe he's the best thing about Christmastime, that's when you start to get to the heart of Christmas.

Scene 4

TLC Angels: "Gloria Chorus" "Away in a Manger" "Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

Song: "When You Know about Noel"

Text and Music: Gina Boe Soloist: Abram Veldkamp

When you hear about the Christmas story and you finally see the light, you know the truth, and now you can't keep quiet. You'll wanna share the news far and wide. 'Cause, when you know about Noel, you'll wanna go and tell how God sent us Emmanuel on that first Christmas night. Noel, Noel, Noel, Born in the King of Israel.

When you understand the Gospel story and believe in what God has done, how he sent his only son to save us, you'll wanna tell it to everyone. 'Cause, when you know about Noel, you'll wanna go and tell how God sent us Emmanuel on that first Christmas night. Noel. Noel, Noel, Noel, Born in the King. Noel. Noel, Noel, Noel, Born in the King of Israel. Born is the King! The first Noel! Born is the King! Emmanuel! Born is the King of Israel!

Scene 5

Song: "A Quizzical Christmas"
It's the season of celebration, let's get ready for the fun.
When we gather the information, we can share with everyone.
So, let's find out what the season is all about.
This year, let's all have a quizzical Christmas. *refrain*This year, let's have a quizzical Christmas,
learning all we can about the holiday.
This year let's all discover the Good News, everything we need to know

to celebrate the wonderful, incredible, miracle of Jesus. This year, let's all have a quizzical Christmas.

The more we look for answers, the more we'll understand how all this information is part of God's masterful, merciful, beautiful plan! This year, let's have a quizzical Christmas!

WE RESPOND IN GRATITUDE

#95:1-3

* Hymn of Response and recessional: "What Child Is This"

* Invitation to Offering: Gwen Overbeek

* Offertory Prayer for the Ministry Fund

Deacon: God, your generosity to us is abundant and gracious. Everything we have comes from you.

All: Receive our gifts of our time, our selves, and our possessions. Help us to grow in gratitude and joy as we follow Jesus. Amen.

* Benediction

 * Doxology: "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" #965
 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* Postlude: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" [#61] Robert J. Powell

Calvin CRC Announcements for December 15, 2024

WORSHIP Today, 10 AM and 5 PM

Morning worship: The children of Calvin Church lead us in a musical program telling the story of Christmas.

Evening worship: The Festival Choir, Covenant Choir, and Allegro Ringers lead us in a Candlelight service of Lessons and Carols. The musical prelude begins at 4:45 PM.

WORSHIP Next Sunday, December 22, Fourth Sunday of Advent

Morning worship: Rev. Rebecca Jordan Heys will preach from Luke 1:39-55, "A Song for the Lowly." The Covenant Choir will lead us in ministry of music, and the offering will be for Community Care.

WORSHIP Christmas Day, December 25, 10 AM

Morning Worship: Rev. Brad Zwiers will preach from Luke 2, and Arc Frisch will provide the ministry of music. The offering will be for Community Care.

COUNCIL NEWS

At our Congregational Meeting last Sunday (12/8) we approved the annual budget, the mission budget, and the motion to disaffiliate from the CRCNA. The vote to disaffiliate from the denomination passed 127 to 14 (90% approval). The Church Order requires a second vote to confirm our decision. The Council will probably schedule that confirmation vote on disaffiliation in the early spring of next year.

As we near the end of the year the Deacons would like to provide a financial update:

- Ministry Fund = \$610,000 through 12/1. \$770,000 is needed to cover annual expenses.
- Missions = \$56,200 through 12/1. \$56,000 is the annual goal.
- Community Care = \$28,200 through 12/1. \$39,500 is the annual goal.
- Family Assistance = \$56,600 through 12/1.

Thank you for your continued generosity and financial support!

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES

During the Advent season, members of the Covenant and Cherub choirs will be leading worship. The liturgy will include a processional of the Light and the Word. A chorister will light the candle of hope, peace, joy, and love each week, and another chorister will present an open Bible to represent the Word made Flesh. This year we are honored to use a family Bible belonging to John and June Primus, longtime members of Calvin Church, and great-grandparents of Annaliese and David Hendrikse.

MEETINGS, ACTIVITIES, AND EVENTS GALLERY ART: For Advent, two of Elly Nyhof's quilts are on display in the Atrium. Can you see the words the Christmas trees in the center of each quilt spell?

CHRISTIANS AND POLITICS SMALL GROUP: The "One Anothering" study group by The Colossian Forum will meet today, Sunday, December 15, from 11:30-12:30 PM in room 1, for session 8, our final session together. Contact Pastor Rebecca or Karl Van Harn if you have questions.

FRENCH CHRISTMAS MANGER (Crèche): Be sure to stop by the display case in the Atrium to view the French Christmas Manger (Crèche) collection put there by Irene Konyndyk, who has been collecting figurines for more than 50 years. Read the written explanations on the nursery windows above the display.

According to the tradition in the South of France, not only did the 3 kings come to bring gifts to the baby Jesus, the townspeople did also - each one with something particular to their life and work: a bundle of sticks, a basket of eggs, a rabbit or chicken, some lavender, or a dance expressing great joy. The santons (little saints), handmade from clay and hand painted by artisans, are dressed in clothing that expresses who they are.

Bring your children to take a look and have them pick out their favorite santon and tell you what that person is bringing and why they like it best!

FELLOWSHIP HOUR: Join us tomorrow, Monday December 16 from 1-3 PM in the atrium for fellowship, snacks, and a few activities. Wear your Christmas outfit and bring your favorite snack for our holiday get-together. All who are available in the middle of a weekday are welcome!

HOMEBOUND CARD BAGS: Season's greetings for our homebound members will once again be collected in the Narthex. We are grateful that the children decorated the 16 bags. A list of homebound members is available on the card table. Cards may be placed in the bags until Sunday morning, December 22. <u>Helpers needed:</u> After the morning service on December 22, we need

volunteers to deliver the bags with Christmas cards for our homebound members. They need to be delivered before Christmas Day.

Calvin's ongoing donations to Baxter Community Center are an important way to express our thanks to God for all that He has given us and to share those blessings with others. In this advent season, and throughout the month of December, we will be collecting non-perishable items for Baxter's "Marketplace" in the Baxter cart in the atrium. Contributions such as boxed and canned foods, hygienic supplies such as shampoo, bar soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, toilet paper, dish soap, and laundry detergent are excellent choices to help Baxter restock their pantry shelves. Baxter neighborhood is in a "food desert", meaning there are no grocery stores within a walkable distance for those

without transportation. Baxter's Marketplace plays a vital role in neighborhood care and outreach. Thank you from the Community Care/Social Justice Committee

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS KAPUT? You can safely and responsibly dispose of Christmas lights and electronic decorations from now through Sunday, January 5 by placing them in the Comprenew bin located in the atrium. Comprenew is a local non-profit committed to safely recycling electronic equipment. To learn more about their services visit their website at www.comprenew.org.

BLOOD DRIVE DATES FOR 2025: The Calvin Church blood drive dates for 2025 are February 19, April 16 and October 15. Put these dates on your calendar and hope to see you there!

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS The Choral Scholars, a 12-voice singing group including Pastor Rebecca, will present a concert of Advent and Christmas music, "O Emmanuel," on Saturday, December 21 at 3:00 PM at First United Methodist Church, 227 Fulton St. No tickets are required.

CALENDAR

	Today, Sunday, December 15, Third Sunday of Advent	
9:40a	Nursery Lead: Suzi Steketee	
	Nursery Volunteer: Grace and Natalie Poortenga	
11:15a	Library Volunteer: Mary Calsbeek	
	Coffee Servers: Rick and Lori Feenstra	
11:30a	One Anothering meets in Room 1	
12:00p	St. Luke A.M.E. Zion Church meets in the Sanctuary	
	Calvin host for St. Luke: Dan Bode	
4:45p	Prelude for Candlelight Service	
5:00p	Lessons and Carols Candlelight Service	
	Monday, December 16	
1:00p	Fellowship Hour in the Atrium	
6:00p	AA meeting in Room 16	
	Tuesday, December 17	
9:00a	Family Assistance	
6:00p	AA meeting in Room 16	
	Wednesday, December 18	
6:00p	AA meeting in Room 16	
6:15p	Covenant Choir rehearsal in Room 9	
	Thursday, December 19	
9:00a	Family Assistance	
6:00p	AA meeting in Room 16	
	Friday, December 20	
6:00p	AA meeting in Room 16	
0.45	Next Sunday, December 22, Fourth Sunday of Advent	
9:40a	Nursery Lead: Christine Coulter	
	Nursery Volunteers: Melisa Hubka, Claire Veldkamp	
11:15a	Library Volunteer: Evonne Kok	
	Coffee Servers: Bob and Beth Schoone-Jongen	
12:00p	St. Luke A.M.E. Zion Church meets in the Sanctuary	
	Calvin host for St. Luke: Jan Wilkins	



Growing in DiscipleshipTransformed for Ministry

Welcome to Calvin Church

In Worship:

- Our worship proceeds unannounced and follows the printed liturgy.
- Reprint and streaming licenses are One License A-730126, CCLI#2532147, and CSPL#175060.
- Our Advent banner visually proclaims the beginning of the liturgical year. Its design reflects a world awaiting the Messiah, with the circular form representing the familiar Scriptural metaphor—Light. Its implication is both past and present. As Israel did long ago, so are we to prepare ourselves and this world with steadfast minds and joyful hearts that he may return in the fullness of time.
- · Large-print resources are available at the Information Desk.
- Our facility is equipped with the Loop hearing system.

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For Children:

- Ages 0-2: Infant and toddler nurseries are available.
- Preschool: The Little Children (TLC) gathers in the nursery prior to the morning worship.
- K-2nd: After the Children's Message the Children's Worship ministry meets downstairs in Rooms 11 & 13 until the conclusion of worship. Parents meet their children there following the service.
- Busy Bags for young children are on the picket fence in the Atrium.
- Bulletins for older children are in the rack in the Narthex.

Fellowship and Information:

- Everyone is invited to the Fellowship Hall for refreshments following the morning service.
- · "Like" us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/CalvinChristianReformedChurch
- Subscribe to our YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/@CalvinCRC/streams

Church office hours: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM, Monday—Thursday Bulletin deadline: Wednesday Noon 616-451-8467 Office@CalvinCRC.org www.CalvinCRC.org